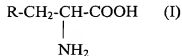


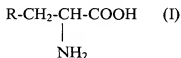
said detection agent being an L-amino acid of following general formula (I):



in which:

- R represents a cyclic amino acid radical, substituted with 1 to 3 groups X, which are identical or different,
- X represents a group other than hydrogen that, as compared to where X is hydrogen, limits the diffusion in the culture medium of the α -keto acid produced by the deamination of the cyclic amino acid.

30. (Twice Amended) A compound having the general formula (I):

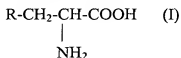


in which:

- R represents a cyclic amino acid radical, substituted with 2 or 3 groups X, which are identical or different,
- X represents a group other than hydrogen that, as compared to where X is hydrogen, limits the diffusion in the culture medium of the α -keto acid produced by the deamination of the cyclic amino acid.

47. (Amended) Detection agent comprising:

(1) at least one compound having the general formula (I):



in which:

- R represents a cyclic amino acid radical, substituted with 1 group X,
- X represents: